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In this issue:

SUCCESS AND FORCE OF PEOPLE'S WAR

(at Regional Level in Socialist North Viet Nam)

by General VO NGUYEN GIAP

Pages 4-8

South Viet Nam

AUGUST 11 PLAF SIMULTANEOUS OVERNIGHT ATTACKS

- OVER 200 ENEMY BASES AND POSITIONS THROUGHOUT SOUTH VIET NAM ASSAULTED, CHIEFLY ON SAIGON, DA NANG AND HUE FRONTS.
- INITIAL BATTLE-COUNT OF THE FIRST DAY: Thousands of Enemy Casualties (1,500 in Hon Quan Region), 5 US Battalions and 3 US Companies, a Puppet Battalion, 3 Companies and a Regimental CP Wiped Out, Many Positions Stormed, over 100 Military Vehicles (300 near Hon Quan) Put out of Commission, a Huge Stock of Fuel Burnt.
- IN THE MEKONG DELTA, PATRIOTIC OFFICERS IN THE PUPPET ARMY TOOK AN ARTILLERY POSITION AND BOMBARDED THE ENEMY TARGETS.

On the Path of the August Revolution

Twenty-four years ago, in August 1945 when Summer was coming to a close, a struggle was launched by our people, with fears which heralded a "new spring" in their multimillenary existence.

In the process of their long history, our people had won brilliant successes over the aggressor but none of them had had such a deep significance as the August 1945 Revolution and the founding of the DRVN. Not only did the latter put an end to nearly a century of foreign domination, but they also established a regime of harsh oppression and exploitation. From slaves under the invaders' iron heels tens of millions of men and women became masters of their country and

of their destiny for the power established in those days belonged to the workers, peasants and other sections of the toiling people, to all patriotic and democratic forces rallied within the Unified National Front under the leadership of the working class.

In the past, whenever the Fatherland was in danger, our people, all to a man, rose against the aggressor. Fighting for decades and making the greatest sacrifices, they succeeded at last in casting off the foreign yoke. But each time, the fruits of their victories were robbed: once the aggressor driven out, they fell again under the rule of local lords without any hope of getting out of their predicament.

(Continued page 2)

VNANDPF Delegation Led by Lawyer Trinh Dinh Thao To Visit North Viet Nam

A delegation of the Viet Nam Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces will soon visit North Viet Nam at the invitation of the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Fatherland Front.

It will be led by Lawyer TRINH DINH THAO, Chairman of the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces and Vice-President of the Advisory Council to the RVN Provisional Revolutionary Government.

Its two deputy-heads will be Superior Honze THICH DON HAU, former chief representative of the Viet Nam Unified Buddhist Association (Van Hanh Section),

and Engineer LAM VAN TET, patriotic personality. Both are Vice Chairmen of the Central Committee of the VNANDPF and members of the Advisory Council to the RVN Provisional Revolutionary Government.

The Delegation will also include: Prof. LE VAN GIAP, Chairman of the Saigon-Cholon-Gia Dinh Committee of the VNANDPF and member of the Advisory Council to the RVN Provisional Revolutionary Government;

— Prof. Doctor LE VAN HAO, Chairman of the Hue Committee of the VNANDPF, and Chairman

(Continued page 2)

Between August 5, 1964
and August 16, 1969

3,316

US AIRCRAFT DOWNED
IN NORTH VIET NAM

★ ★ ★

A hero-unit: the militia of village T,
Ha Tinh province.



H EAD of the DRVN Delegation, N. Xuan Thien pointed out at the 30th plenary session of the Paris Conference that the lack of progress in the 30 sessions of the Conference was solely to be blamed on the obstinacy of Washington in the two fundamental issues: withdrawal of US and satellite troops, and enforcement of the South Vietnamese people's right to self-determination.

Mr. Xuan Thien recalled that in its top-to-top overall session, the NLF had reasserted the inalienable principle of unconditional withdrawal of US and satellite troops, whereas the American side did not cease pressing the "mutual trust withdrawal" claim in the hope of procuring US military assistance.

At the same session, Mr. Nguyen Van Tien, deputy-head of the Delegation of the RSVN Provisional Revolutionary Government, also pointed to the responsibility of the US Government for the delay in the achievement of a Viet Nam settlement.

He denounced the inhuman crimes committed by the US Expeditionary Corps in South Viet Nam, including "mopping-up" operations, 153 wanton bombings, use of 6 and 7-ton bombs, noxious gases and poisons, etc. Referring to the US decision to withdraw from South Viet Nam 25,000 GI's, the DRVN delegate produced

VNANDPF DELEGATION LED BY LAWYER TRINH DINH THAO TO VISIT NORTH VIET NAM

(Continued from page 1)

of the People's Revolutionary Committee of Thua Thien-Hue.

— **MISS NGUYEN DINH CHI**, Vice-Chairman of the VNANDPF, member of the DRVN Advisory Council to the RSVN Provisional Revolutionary Government, and Vice-Chairman of the People's Revolutionary Committee of Thua Thien-Hue.

— **MISS LIEN HOA NGO**

THI PHU, member of the Vietnamese People's Revolutionary Committee of the VNANDPF; and

— **MR DUONG VAN CHIEN**, chief of the Secretariat of the VNANDPF. Greeting the forthcoming visit of the VNANDPF delegation, Nhan Dan daily, central organ of the Viet Nam Workers' Party, stressed the important part played by the VNANDPF in the

present struggle of the South Vietnamese people against US aggression, which struggle is marked by a deep spirit of national unity and solidarity for National Salvation. The Nhan Dan editorial emphasized that this visit, so long awaited by the Vietnamese people, will further strengthen the unity of the entire nation and its resolve to fight and to defeat the Yankee imperialists and their Saigon stooges.

ON THE PATH OF THE AUGUST REVOLUTION

(Continued from page 1)

Things were not the same after the August 1945 Revolution and the establishment of the DRVN, the first people's democratic state in our history. Right from the political Thesis elaborated in 1930 by the Indochinese Communist Party — now the Viet Nam Workers' Party — and by the Political Program adopted in 1941 by the Viet Nam Independence League (Viet Minh), the people's power effected democratic and social reforms which were carried on in the anti-colonialist war in the liberated areas in the North as well as in the South. They wrought far-reaching changes in the Vietnamese social fabric, which grew deeper, wider and more complete since North Viet Nam, since the complete liberation, has embarked on socialist construction. Since then, the revolutionary heroism of our people has been enhanced by a new content — the love for socialism — in addition to the attachment to the native land which everybody entertains in his heart of hearts, to the conscience that "nothing is more precious than freedom and independence," and to the pride of belonging to a nation with a glorious past. Needless to look elsewhere for the secret of the vigor, persistence and continuity of the Vietnamese revolutionary movement which got the better of the Japanese fascists in 1945 and of the French colonialist invaders aided by the American imperialists in 1954, and which has been foiling all the aggressive schemes of the latter, since 1954.

He argued that the formation of a provisional coalition government and the holding of elections were inseparable. Free and democratic general elections were inconceivable without the existence of a provisional coalition government, since only such a government, formed in accordance with NLF-proposed procedures, can give the guarantee of representativeness and is invested with the required competence to conduct fair and democratic elections, so as to ensure to all strata of the South Vietnamese people the right to make their choice without outside pressure or coercion.

The PRG negotiator then concluded his statement by reaffirming the South Vietnamese people's resolve to carry on the struggle until genuine independence and peace have been achieved.

manus, is the establishment of the National United Front, the storage of strength in all fields and the combined utilization of political action and armed struggle which led to the general insurrection staged at the most favorable opportunity to overthrow the reactionary power, shatter the colonial and feudal yoke and set up the people's power.

The experiences of the August Revolution were most useful to our people in their confrontation with the French colonialists as well as in the present one with the American imperialists.

It is with the people's war that the armed forces and people of North Viet Nam have won the victory of destruction of the US and forced it into an unconditional bombing halt in the DRVN and to the Conference table in Paris.

It is by uniting more and more closely, by gathering strength in every respect, that the South Viet Nam people, led by the National Front for Liberation, defeated the "special war" and the first stage of the "local war." Since last spring waves of general attacks and uprisings have been sweeping the US expeditionary forces, the puppet army and US satellite troops into a more and more disastrous defensive position. The all-sided successes achieved by the South Viet Nam people — military, political and diplomatic — ended in the formation of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam, an event of paramount significance foreboding their final victory.

Though their final future is left in no doubt, the American imperialists have not given up their views upon South Viet Nam. The trial is not over for our people. But, in a spirit which presided over the victory of

the August 1945 Revolution, "our armed forces and people throughout the country, millions as one man, upholding revolutionary heroism, and fearless of sacrifice and hardships are determined to carry on and step up the resistance war, with the firm resolve to fight and win, till the complete withdrawal of US troops and till the total collapse of the puppet army and administration in order to liberate the South, defend the North and achieve the ultimate peaceful reunification of the country." (President Ho Chi Minh's address of July 20, 1960). Victory is ours, inevitably.

"PROUD remembrance of the past, faith in the coming year" said a poet profoundly attached to his native land. The faith of our people is based on the age-old traditional heroism and indomitable spirit of which the August 1945 Revolution, for all its glory, was but an episode. It is also based on a truth which took shape in the anti-French war and has since been gradually corroborated by facts, that is at the present juncture, even a country, not large in population and size, economically little developed, and closely united and fighting resolutely along a judicious line, can completely outwit any enemy, be he US imperialist.

It is with this faith and the resolve to work with might and main to bring final victory nearer, to fulfill to his best his nationalist and internationalist duty, to prove to be worthy of the Vietnamese people's Fatherland that every Vietnamese man or woman, old or young, in the North or in the South, is commemorating these days the 23th anniversary of the August 1945 Revolution and the founding of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam.

Pointing at a bush, somebody shouted: "The pirate's

about 10 kilometers away, a large crowd had already gathered there, looking for the downed pilot.

NEW BATCH OF PEOPLES ARMED FORCES "HERO-UNITS" AND HEROES

O N June last, referring to a decision of the Standing Committee of the DRVN National Assembly, President Ho Chi Minh signed an order conferring the title of "Heroic Unit" on 17 units and "Hero" on 12 officers and men of the people's armed forces.

Following the 4th Heroes and Emulation Fighters' congress held at the beginning of 1967, the new batch of "hero units" and heroes spells out the revolutionary heroism of the North Viet Nam people's armed forces in the struggle against US aggression and for national salvation.

The 17 newly cited units are: three AA defence units, a missile unit, an artillery unit, an army unit garrisoned on an island, two air force units, three lorry transport units, two sapper units, three rural people's militia units, and a self-defence unit at a landing stage. The 12 officers and soldiers made "people's armed forces heroes" are three fighter pilots, two AA gunners, a missile operator, a lorry driver, a boatman, an army sapper, an army surgeon, a technician of the Armament Department and a people's militia girl.

Each unit or armyman awarded possesses its own particular features but all of them, either belonging to such and such arm or locality, or assuming such and such responsibility in different circumstances, display the characteristics common to the fighters of the Viet Nam People's Army: "Our army is faithful to the Party and devoted to the people; it carries through all its tasks, overcomes all difficulties and is capable of defeating any enemy."

Following are the main points in the glorious exploits of some of the units and individuals newly decorated Hero-Units and Heroes:

The Hong Linh anti-aircraft unit:

It has shot down 177 US aircraft, various types, including a F-4A swing-wing plane and in co-ordination with other units grounded 79 other planes.

The Missile Battalion 64: It has blasted to pieces 40 US aircraft. On many occasions it knocked out of the skies a whole flight of US aircraft and once won two battles in a single day.

The army unit on Hon Me Island: It has blasted off 800 US air and naval attacks, shooting down 27 US aircraft and setting ablaze two enemy warships.

The Bird Company of the People's Air Force:

Maiden there! Militiamen promptly rushed in. A woman later, she was killed by a flying bomb. She tore up her handkerchief, tucked a piece of it into her nose, then carried it to the nearest medical station. The man was big and tall, but Mother Hien did not feel his weight. As blood from his wounds soaked her clothes, Mother Hien quivered her face.

"You see, Mother, it's not so difficult to capture an American aggressor, is it?"

As a woman told Mother Hien, Mother Hien was very happy. She laughed all the time. From then on, she no longer feared the shelter as before. She only rested when enemy planes came and bombed the village, and even went out to work on the fields with the other farmers.

One day, when she was wearing a rice pith, US aircraft came and dropped several bombs on the field. She threw herself on the ground. The explosions only sprinkled some dirt on her. After the planes had gone, she stood up and resumed her job.

On another day, when Mother Hien was preparing her usual enemy plane roared in and strafed a nearby A-1 site. Hearing the return fire, she hurried to the scene.

It has recorded many outstanding exploits. Once the company successfully fought a battle engaged by an enemy force eight times bigger in numbers. One it scored two wins in a single day.

The militia unit of village T. in Vinh Linh area: While carrying out its tasks, it has successfully and civil defence jobs, the unit downed 4 US aircraft with infantry weapons and in co-ordination with other armed forces brought down 9 others, and captured 4 US airmen.

Pham Thanh Ngan: 35, captain, fighter-pilot of the People's Air Force. He and his unit have shot down 10 US aircraft. He alone has been responsible for 8 kills.

Bui Xuan Chien: 34, corporal, commander of an AA gun crew. During the last three years of his service, Chien fought nearly 30 battles. Calm, courageous and ready to sacrifice himself, he has many times saved ammunition from being burnt out.

Tran Cong Nhon: 33, sergeant-major, army truck driver. For nearly four years, though operating on roads frequently raided by enemy planes he always managed to get through his lorry and freight. He has driven his car 155,000 kilometers without an accident and 300 days per year on an average.

An artillery unit on the march

At the enemy with her own hands, to arrange those who have fallen victims to the bombing and strafing.

Hearing her request, the political commissar smiled, and ordered the gunners to show her how to handle the gun. She sat on the platform and a gunner helped her turn the gun barrel, training it to the direction of an oncoming plane. The brick hit, but raised chaos away, a white "fright of four or five fighters."

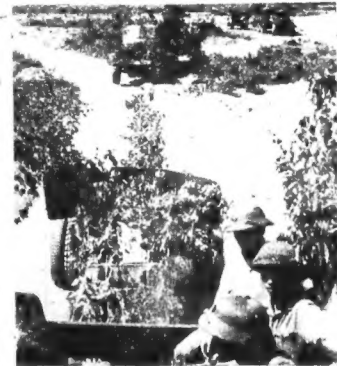
Mother Hien was so happy and proud that she felt no hunger at all, although that day she was busy with the task of having meals. For the first time in her life, she felt the pride of someone who takes part in actual fighting, against the aggressors.

From then on, Mother Hien displayed every mood and all her experiences. She daily went to the batteries and brought the gunners hot tea. In some days she told the young women in the village to supply the fighters with boiled cassava roots and groundnuts, on which she added banana and sugar cane, a substitute for their rice which had been sprinkled with earth and dust raised by the bombs.

Mother Hien's home often looked like a first-aid station for wounded and sick army men. She used to be known to health. She gave them new-laid eggs, rice, bananas and other products. She often told the fighters how much she wished to sit on the gun platform in lieu of the wounded soldier and fire just one shot

Truong Thi Khue, 23, deputy head of a village militia. Native of a village exposed to violent attacks from US Air Force Navy, she has resourcefully and courageously fought over 100 battles while mobilizing the villagers to carry out anti-fascist production and build them into a fortress village.

At the second Congress of 100,000 fighters in Quang Binh, she was cited as one of the most outstanding examples of the "Four Good" (good production, good fighting) emulation movement in the province.



An artillery unit on the march

She told the fighters to take very much of the potatoes needed from his kitchen garden for their soup. She even donated hundreds of bamboo to the soldiers to make bamboo shelters.

Last Autumn-Winter, in spite of her age, Mother Hien voluntarily contributed 120 workdays to her co-operatives, raised a couple of pigs, prepared 500 kilograms of marmos, and sold to the village buying and selling co-op a 30-litre hog. Once she offered to lend the provincial authorities 300 kilos of rice to meet an emergency need of the front. Instead of rice, which is the staple food of the Vietnamese, she donated 300 workdays.

Asked why she dared sit on a gun platform and fire at American aircraft, she replied: "The American aggressors are very cruel. If we don't fire at them, they'll kill all of us."

"You are very old, why don't you take a rest?" she was asked.

"She replied: 'The Americans take no rest in their war of aggression against us. Why should we in our fight?'"

Nguyen Thi Hien was affectionately nicknamed "Mother Gunner" by the army men. At the second Congress of 100,000 fighters in Quang Binh, she was cited as one of the most outstanding examples of the "Four Good" (good production, good fighting) emulation movement in the province.

SUCCESS AND FORCE OF THE PEOPLE'S WAR AT REGIONAL LEVEL IN SOCIALIST NORTH VIETNAM

General VO NGUYEN GIAP

Excerpts from the speech at the Third Military Zone Officers' Meeting to review the achievements of four years of people's war against the US war of destruction — July 1969

OVER the past years, under the direct leadership of the local Party committees, the gallant and creative labor of our people and armed forces accounted for a worthy part in the common achievements of the North and of the country as a whole, and

our people's war in various localities attained a rather high level. Our people's war versus the war of destruction was a war of resistance with new features. Hence the abundant and valuable experiences gathered by the localities in all fields...

THE ENTIRE PEOPLE FIGHT BACK AIR AND NAVAL WAR OF DESTRUCTION

Against the US imperialists' modern air and naval forces, our Northern armymen and people, the gallant and creative labor of our people and armed forces accounted for a worthy part in the common achievements of the North and of the country as a whole, and

of Quang Binh province bagged over 200, many militiamen also did their bit. Provincial anti-aircraft units gave a good account of themselves, some of them blasting up to 70 or 80 enemy planes — a high record.

The influence of the regional armed forces in anti-aircraft defence could also be seen in their co-ordination in combat with the regular anti-aircraft units to knock down as many enemy planes as possible, forming an efficacious flank at various altitudes and in various places.

On the other hand, in the war of destruction, enemy air force was in a position to strike at any target in our rear. To cope with the enemy's mobility, we had to build an extensive anti-aircraft defence system with local points. Thanks to a close co-ordination between the main anti-aircraft forces and the local ones, the local armed forces and the militia, self-defence, we satisfactorily met that complex combat requirement.

Another major role of the local armed forces was their extremely important assignment in anti-aircraft forces: fighting enemy planes flying at low altitude. The local forces and militia, self-defence units kept watch, detected and destroyed enemy aircraft, helped the main force organize air defence, and therefore succeeded in protecting their lives and property as well as production, keeping their life at its normal under the conditions of a grueling war.

The local armed forces in the coastal areas successfully hit back at US vessels and US puppet commando-boats. In co-ordination with main force artillery units and operating at key centres, local gunners fired at enemy boats, provided cover for the people's activities within their gun's range and opened up new possibilities for the localities to defend our rather long coastline.

Together with the people, local troops and people's security forces honourably discharged their responsibility by grounding advanced and rear units of the enemy, keeping order, and security, and foiling the enemy's pincer moves.

Along with operations of the main forces, courageous and effective actions of the local anti-aircraft units, both the main forces and the widespread local forces, and all kinds of weapons, we wove an extensive network of fire with key points, with layers and many directions, to trap enemy planes at every altitude, place and moment.

The formidable, all-round, socialist North inflicted very serious and frightening losses upon the modern air force of the American imperialists.

The impact of the local armed forces in anti-aircraft defence could be felt in the number of enemy planes brought down by the militia, self-defence and local forces. Keeping watch round the clock and using machine-guns of various kinds and types, often while working in the fields or in the factories, militia and self-defence members managed to shoot down many US modern jets: those



Quang Binh province coastal artillery.

b) Parallel with the "the entire people hit back at enemy planes and vessels" policy is the catchword: "The entire people actively take part in the people's air defence." The past years' fighting has highlighted the extremely important significance of air defence which frustrated the enemy's objective and reduced to the minimum our losses in men and property.

"To wipe out the enemy to defend oneself, and to preserve our forces to wipe out the enemy." This fundamental principle of every war has to be grasped when opposing a people's war to a war of destruction. Indeed, to fight enemy air force is not like to deal with his infantry, especially when one does not yet possess a strong air force and long-range missiles to destroy enemy planes on the ground at their bases or on the wing to their targets. Under these conditions, to bring our initiative into full play and reduce our losses, it is of utmost importance to multiply or tenfold the effectiveness of the enemy's air strikes, and on this basis to turn his attacks into opportunities to wipe him out. Therefore, targets of eventual enemy strikes must be kept secret, protected by defence works, camouflaged, scattered and moved from place to place. People's air defence as well as the change of orientation in economic activities, have a strategic significance, in the sense that they aim at neutralizing or diminishing the destructive effect of the enemy's raids. The satisfactory functioning of air defence makes it possible for localities to carry out the fighting, maintain production, keep communication channels going for a long time. Moreover, in many areas, especially in the southern provinces of the Fourth Military Zone, where the adversary intensified his attacks during the "limited bombing" period, our losses were smaller than previously and our confidence in the final victory.

In this domain the people's efforts were truly considerable. Throughout the North the population dug tens of millions of shelters, tens of thousands of communication trenches, organized fire aid, and made good the aftermaths of enemy attacks. We evacuated to the countryside millions of people living in places worst hit by the enemy and in cities and other urban centres, dispersed many factories, offices, stores, schools and hospitals. Some provinces played hosts to hundreds of thousands of evacuees and helped them in their work and life. There were very great achievements and at the same time

or sparsely populated areas and at key points subjected to heavy attacks. However, local forces played also a very

TO MOBILIZE THE MANPOWER NEEDED BY THE WAR, TO SET UP AND DEVELOP THE LOCAL ARMED FORCES

In the tough fight against the war of destruction, every locality actively encouraged the youth to enlist in the army while steadily building and strengthening its armed forces, militia and self-defence.

a) To meet the requirements of the war, our main forces, especially the modern arms like the anti-aircraft defence and the air force, were considerably expanded in a short time, in both number and quality, and we well on the battlefield. This was made possible by the great contribution of the various areas to the strong reserve forces built there since the years of peace.

As production, combat and service to the front had to be carried out at once successful mobilization of an adequate contingent of youth to serve in the Army was in itself a tremendous achievement of the localities. It was possible thanks to the patriotism and love for socialism of our people and youth, to the leadership and organizational ability of the local Party committees and administrative committees and to the superiority of our socialist system. It also threw light on the new progress of the local military work and military organization.

It was the first time that the localities had to draft so many young men. In peace-time, we did make good preparations for our mobilization work by working out relevant laws and regulations. When the war broke out, we further realized the advisability of combining enforcement of State laws with a careful political education, of carrying out ideological mobilization of the masses following the mass line, relying on the Party cells, co-operative state-labor, enterprises, offices, schools, mass movements like the youth's "three ready's", the women's "three responsibilities".

Over the past years, the overwhelming majority of the youth enlisted have proved to be courageous and staunch fighters, faithful to the Party, dedicated to the people, apt to rapidly master military knowledge, worthy of being the left youth of the socialist regime, patiently educated and trained by the Party. This was another achievement creditable to our socialist system...

b) In the high tide of the resistance against US aggression, for national salvation, the local armed forces grew up by leaps and bounds, in terms of organization, equipment, and acquired a new fighting ability.

important part, without which our tasks in communications and transport could not have been fulfilled in the past years...

The militia and self-defence units increased in numbers though many were incorporated in the main forces, Labour Youth members and women in militia and self-defence units also went up. They got more and better equipment. Many villages set up gunners' groups and special groups (like engineering, liaison, intelligence, first aid, etc.) even a noble combat force. Militia and self-defence members learned to use many kinds of weapons and equipment — both rudimentary and sophisticated, brought down enemy planes, shot down enemy vessels, disposed of tens of thousands of modern bombs and mines.

The local forces rapidly grew up, in terms of organization, equipment and combat tasks. Many provinces boast anti-aircraft units which have grounded enemy planes, artillery units which have sunk or set ablaze enemy vessels and commando boats or engineering units which have made a great contribution to keep traffic flowing. Many local industry units also knocked down enemy planes, and in some places performed most admirable feats of arms. Local military services made noticeable progress in helping Party Committees and in leading the local armed forces and guiding the militia and self-defence movements.

The above facts show our actual capacities to build very strong local armed forces comprising: strong and widespread militia and self-defence units; local armed forces with high quality, required arms and appropriate organization; and local military services consolidated at all levels. Local armed forces, which have specific functions and tasks, adequate organization and equipment, appropriate training, especially a high fighting spirit, a knowledge of the terrain, population and climate of their areas and suitable tactical methods, can fight successfully with a small force and few munitions and can fulfil their important functions and tasks with the best results. Strong local armed forces constitute a solid nucleus for the nation-wide and all-out people's war in the localities. Only with strong local armed forces and strong reserve force in the localities can one have firm bases to vigorously and successfully develop the main forces and ensure necessary.

TO CHANGE THE ECONOMIC ORIENTATION, SET UP AND DEVELOP LOCAL ECONOMY, CONTINUE TO PUSH AHEAD SOCIALIST REVOLUTION AND BRING INTO FULL PLAY THE SUPERIORITY OF THE SOCIALIST REGIME, INSTIL A BIG STRENGTH INTO THE PEOPLE'S WAR IN VARIOUS LOCALITIES

In face of the US imperialists' "limited war" in the South and war of destruction in the North, our Party's Central Committee pointed out that the North had to carry out production while fighting and defend itself, support the South with might and main and continue to push ahead socialist construction in accordance with the new situation.

To fulfil this task, our Party advocated a change in the economic orientation by setting up and developing local economy. Economic building and development in the North must conform to the war-time situation in order to meet the fighting requirements of the moment as well as in case of US aggression, and at the same time must be consistent with the long-range orientation of socialist building. After our successful resistance against US aggression, this was a perfectly sound and imaginative policy of our Party.

Despite the enemy's fierce attacks, together with the fighting and supplying of the front, the localities strove hard to implement the new economic orientation of setting up and developing their own economy in line with their situation. They went on with the revolution in the production relations, technological revolution and cultural and ideological revolution to build and consolidate the socialist regime in war-time, and to promote the pre-eminence of the socialist system and step up the people's war in their localities. These are now and most valuable experiences of our Party as well as of the local Party Committees in this war.

The fight on the front of production, the development of education, culture, public health, improvement of the living standards, building of socialism, constitute a real epic which exalts the Vietnamese people's courage, creative labour, cleverness, and thirst for learning. In all localities, our armed forces and people are heroic not only in combat but also in production and in the building of a new life under enemy bombing and strafing. This also is a characteristic of our people's revolutionary heroism. It spells out the greatness of our effort and justifies the fact that the socialist Vietnamese can take a prouder in themselves. Civilization has triumphed over violence. This is why the US war of destruction has lamentably failed. For all our weaknesses and shortcomings, the achievements of the socialist regime in many fields and particularly in organization.

Before the war broke out, the localities had laid some material and technical bases for socialism. These were strengthened and gradually improved during the years of war. They provided new facilities for the people's war to meet its logistical needs, raised labour productivity and liberated manpower for the fighting, thereby contributing to increase combat potential and services (Continued page 7)

ist has referred to the economic achievements in North Vietnam as a "Vietnam miracle". The US imperialists, who have inflicted certain losses upon us, have nevertheless failed in their scheme of shattering our economic potential to weaken our fighting capacity and disrupt the people's life in North Vietnam. In war-time, our local socialist economy has prospered and continued to expand, and efficiently served the effort. With the development of local agriculture, industry and medical work, the on-the-spot logistical base of the people's war was strengthened a considerable step further.

War is an agonizing trial for a social system. Thanks to the new economic orientation to suit war-time requirements of man had to undergo the severe revolutions in various localities, the socialist regime in the North continued to be built, after our successful resistance against US aggression, and turned to account its supremacy to push ahead the resistance against US aggression and socialist revolution.

The reality in the various areas of the past years of war has made it plain that the elimination of the exploitation of man had to undergo the severe revolutions in various localities, the socialist regime in the North continued to be built, after our successful resistance against US aggression, and turned to account its supremacy to push ahead the resistance against US aggression and socialist revolution.

Before the war broke out, the localities had laid some material and technical bases for socialism. These were strengthened and gradually improved during the years of war. They provided new facilities for the people's war to meet its logistical needs, raised labour productivity and liberated manpower for the fighting, thereby contributing to increase combat potential and services (Continued page 7)

* The three "ready's" are: ready to fight (US aggression) and to join up ready to overcome all difficulties to drive ahead production and the building of socialism, and ready to do any work, if necessary, at the request of the Fatherland.

* The three "responsibilities" are: in production, in family task and in the fighting.

International Day of Solidarity

with Afro-American People (August 18, 1969)

A Powder Keg inside the US

THE American rulers, always brag of the US as "the most civilized country in the world" and a "Welfare State," but the truth is that its 22-million Black population (about 12% of the total) who have created considerable material and cultural wealth and more schools, etc.,

180 years after the coming into force of the American Constitution, one hundred years after the promulgation by President Abraham Lincoln of the law to emancipate the Black people and four years after the enacting of Johnson's law on civil rights (August 6, 1968), the Afro-Americans still live a wretched and humiliating life, in many ways worse than in the previous centuries. Tens of thousands of Black youths have been sent to Viet Nam to die senseless deaths, making up only 11 per cent of the total population, Black people account for 90 per cent of the US expatriatory forces in South Viet Nam and 21 per cent upward in form of casualties.

The life of Black people is full of blood and tears. They fall victims to every colonial policy which turns them into "colonial" slaves even inside the US.

That is why they have been unrelentingly struggling against racial discrimination and for the freedom and equality with the whites. Among them there is an increasing realization that nothing can be expected from US Presidents and from court proceedings, so they must take to the streets for demonstrations, with arms in hand for self defence, if need be.

Even before World II, though still at its beginning, their militant action dragged on sometimes for three or four years. After the war, it has never ceased mounting, from legal non-violence, it has developed into rebellions against the reactionary US authorities (from sporadic activities it has spread to a whole region, a whole State and even throughout the US). The climax of this decade-long turmoil was the explosion of Black people against the murder of one of their leaders, Martin Luther King, in April 1968, by US reactionary: hundreds of thousands of Black people in 35 American cities confronted with arms the police, soldiers, federal troops and policemen called in to repress them. This movement reached as far as US military and naval bases in foreign countries and generated a "hot

summer" in the US.

The Black people took an active part in the "march of the poor" on Washington from the "Southern states for employment, better living standard and more schools, etc.,

At present this movement is still going on in many localities in the States, Black students struck and picketed their colleges and demanded equal rights for their people and for themselves.

On April 3 and 4, on the occasion of the first anniversary of the assassination of Luther King's murder, they staged many demonstrations in Washington, Chicago and over twenty other cities in the US.

THE Afro-Americans have always linked their fight against racial discrimination and for freedom and equality with the anti-Viet Nam war protest, on the ground that this war does them no good and prevents their plight. They are aware that in resisting the American imperialists, the Vietnamese people also maintain their own cause. In the 1968 presidential elections they set up a third political party, the Peace and Freedom Party whose manifesto included the demand for immediate and unconditional withdrawal of US troops from South Viet Nam. Radical Afro-Americans founded the "Black Panther" Party in order to push forward emancipation of US Blacks and opposition to the Viet Nam war. In early 1968, the "Anti-Viet Nam War" and "Black People's National Union" was established and joined forces with other organizations to lead the Black people's anti-Viet Nam war drive. The "Black Power" conference held in 1967 called on Black people to refuse service in Viet Nam. Black youths spontaneously hurled their draft cards into the fire, and resisted induction. Many Black GIs laid down their arms, declaring they would make war on an enemy within and not without the US. Cassius Clay, a Black heavyweight world champion and stubborn draft and Viet Nam war resister, was sentenced to five years' imprisonment and a 10,000-dollar fine. In May 1968, a Black boy in Washington shot the face of Freeman, US Secretary for Agriculture: "Our people are not in Viet Nam but in Congress." Such courageous acts are unmistakable indicators of the Afro-American's militant

solidarity with the Vietnamese people.

As an oppressed people fighting for their own liberation, the Vietnamese people always attach great importance to the Afro-American's movement for their fundamental rights. Premier Pham Van Dong said to Stokely Carmichael, a Black leader, when he visited the DRVN in 1968: "The Vietnamese people deeply feel the suffering of the Afro-Americans, our dear brothers and comrades-in-arm in the fight against the common enemy, US imperialism. We sincerely thank you for your staunch support to our struggle and are gratified to see it spread among the Black GIs."

Together with millions of Afro-Americans, the Vietnamese people demand that the US authorities at once stop cracking down on Black Americans and end US aggression in Viet Nam.

TRI-CONTINENTAL COUNTRIES NEVER TO BE TAKEN IN BY US DECEPTION

THE Viet Nam Committee of Solidarity with Asian and African Peoples has just made public a statement on the recent provocative and divisive acts committed by the US against the Asian, African and Latin American peoples.

The statement said that on June 11 last, the Secretariat of the Organization of Solidarity of Asian, African and Latin American Peoples has released a statement denouncing the CIA for having falsified the documents of this organization with the dark design to misrepresent "the latter's policy, to twist the situation of the nationalized countries and sow division among the countries members of the tri-continental organization and between these countries and the organization itself.

The statement stressed that the Viet Nam Committee of Solidarity with Asian and African Peoples entirely agreed to the above-mentioned declaration of the Secretariat of the Organization of Solidarity of Asian, African and Latin American Peoples and furthermore stated that the forged documents

DRVN Foreign Ministry Protests Illegal Acts Against Its Vietnamese Embassy Officials and VNA Correspondent

UNDER premeditated plans, the Vietnamese administration twice manhandled, searched and arrested on August 9, 1969 two diplomats and three staff members of the DRVN Embassy and the correspondent of Viet Nam News Agency in Vietnamese while they were riding in a car bearing a diplomatic registration plate. The Vietnamese administration deliberately engineered a "car accident" and claimed that it had found "evidence of the CIA's directed against the Laotian government" in order to mislead public opinion, slander the DRVN and have a pretext to expel these six cadres and personnel of the DRVN.

It was a very brazen provocation following other systematic ones by the Vietnamese administration against the DRVN. It constituted a very gross violation of the Vienna Convention on diplomatic relations among nations. This edious incident put up by the Vietnamese administration was aimed at

concealing stepped-up US intervention and aggression, sabotaging the 1968 Geneva Agreement on Laos, and undermining the long-standing friendship between the peoples of Viet Nam and Laos.

The DRVN Foreign Ministry strongly condemns the above-said breaches of international law by the Vietnamese administration. It demands that the latter stop all similar acts, set free at once the five officials and staff members of the DRVN Embassy together with the VNA correspondent, and ensure normal activities to all officials and staff members of the DRVN Embassy in Vietnamese.

If the Vietnamese administration continues to challenge international law concerning diplomatic relations, it must bear full responsibility for all the consequences arising therefrom.

Hanoi, August 11, 1969

SUCCESS AND FORCE...

(Continued from page 5)

to the front of the local armed forces and people. In plane-hunting, air defence, maintenance of communication lines, the various localities required substantial material and technical contributions from cooperatives, enterprises, state offices and people.

The excellence of the socialist system in the North is embodied in the new laws, the socialist Vietnamese with ardent patriotism, genuine proletarian internationalism, a spirit of collective mastery, a high fighting spirit, a continuously improving cultural level, good health, a loyal, simple and sound way of life. Local youths, labour youth members, Party members who joined up set bright examples in the life-and-death

struggle against the enemy, which are a source of pride for the socialist regime. Our militia and self-defence members are not only courageous but also clever in the handling of many kinds of modern weapons and equipment. Our worker and cooperative members are industrious, good organizers and show great ability and ingenuity in improving technique, increasing labour yield in production and in the service to the front.

Clearly enough, the socialist regime has made the most of its superiority to step up peoples' war in politics, organization, material and technical bases, and in ideology, intelligence and human qualities. These are new capabilities. The great power and strength of people's war in the localities...

TO STRENGTHEN THE LEADERSHIP OF LOCAL PARTY COMMITTEES

If the people's war in the localities developed a great force and scored brilliant successes, it was due primarily to the leadership of the local Party committees who strictly followed the correct policy of the Party Central Committee. Those upheld the thorough revolutionary spirit of the working class, brought into full play the cleverness of the Party members and the masses, did their best to grasp the Party's lines and policies, and fulfilled all the tasks assigned to their areas in the resistance against US aggression for national salvation. They took care to give overall leadership while seeing with particular attention to the military tasks entrusted to their localities, attaching special importance to political education, ideological guidance, organizational work, thereby making the most of the great power and strength of the socialist system to push ahead people's war.

Leadership in the war does not imply only military leadership, coordinating military affairs with economic affairs, the fighting with production, the front with the rear. The achievements of the local Party committees lie in the fact that they tirelessly coupled production with the combat, discharging their task of mobilizing manpower and

material tasks entrusted to their localities, attaching special importance to political education, ideological guidance, organizational work, thereby making the most of the great power and strength of the socialist system to push ahead people's war. Leadership in the war does not imply only military leadership, coordinating military affairs with economic affairs, the fighting with production, the front with the rear. The achievements of the local Party committees lie in the fact that they tirelessly coupled production with the combat, discharging their task of mobilizing manpower and

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(Continued from page 5)

near Mang Yang: 72 vehicles (6 armoured cars and 66 trucks) destroyed, 153 GI casualties.

HUE: 20 enemy bases between Chanh Pass and the 17th parallel (many in Hue City), "Khan" camp at Dong Lam, bases of US Airborne Division and at Phu Son, southeast, and A-1 southwest of Hue, attacked. A US company struck off the charge near A Bua (Aug. 12). In total 300 enemy troops put out of action.

MEKONG DELTA: The PLAF hammered at the enemy in a major part of the provinces in the delta. My Tho, 30 km southwest of Saigon, 10 targets were hit including the provincial capital and almost all sub-provincial centres. The American enemy casualties, 33 vehicles and 5 cannons destroyed, 3,000 litres of petrol burnt, 5,000 enemy pursued, 5,000 agents.

Other PLAF attacks were made in the provinces of Go Cong (east of My Tho) and Ba Gia (Gulf of Thailand) and the My Tho province and capital 15 km west of Saigon.

The following night, helped by PLAF men, many patriot officers in the puppet army took an artillery position near Tra Vinh (200 km west of Saigon) and with 2,000 men shelled the enemy positions

manoeuvring, taking a toll of 75 enemy troops, destroying 4 cannons and 7 military vehicles and capturing many firearms.

Other successes in the first week of August: HUE FRONT: From August 7 to 10, a dozen targets south of the DMZ were hit including US bases at Dong Ha and Cam Viet; 3 companies wiped out.

August 10, west of Hue: A US company and a platoon written off the materiel, a company badly mangled; 200 GIs disabled. In A Bua region, in 10 days since the beginning of August, 31 enemy aircraft put out of action.

NAM RANH REGION: On August 7, onset on 3 US positions, including an airfield (5 aircraft wrecked). Lo Dat stronghold (500 GI casualties, one million litres of fuel burnt).

SAIGON CITY: August 7, puppet air force school in 5th district stormed; a tall 15-storey American, the puppet officers, and heavy material damage.

MEKONG DELTA: From August 1 to 4, in Rach Gia region, 10 km west, about 1,500 GIs were wiped out in Hon Quan region where nearly 300 vehicles, mostly

resources to meet the resistance need, while fulfilling their production and combat duties on the spot, in accordance with the specific situation of their areas in different circumstances. That is why under every circumstance, in general the localities were able to keep up production, fight effectively and perform satisfactorily all the military and other tasks set by the central authorities. These accomplishments speak volumes for the high sense of political responsibility and at the same time the practical organizational ability and progress in many fields of the local Party committees.

Those Party committees that had fulfilled their tasks in wartime, paid due attention to military leadership, leading both combat and production, and displayed great ability in leading production in the spirit of force fighting. This has become a new responsibility for the leadership of these committees.

Many local Party committees, especially those in the areas worst hit by the enemy, discharged it with distinction and drawn many repercussions, the main ones of which they have summed up as follows:

—The provincial Party committee must strengthen its leadership over the local military service and promote the latter's role.

—To give the best help to the Party committee the local military service must be not only expert in military affairs but also conversant in economic affairs, grasp the main problems of socialist building in the area and ably coordinate military affairs with other duties.

—One must thoroughly explain the military requirements to the local branches and services, closely coordinate the fighting with production, economic matters with national defence matters.

—One must raise the military knowledge of Party members and

cadres, the work and way of life of all branches and services must be militarized.

—One must closely coordinate the activities of all branches and services under the overall leadership of the local Party committee.

In order to fulfil the task of leading and guiding the people's war in the localities, the Party committee attached the greatest importance to consolidating themselves in every aspect: political, ideological and organizational. In the provinces, the number of Party members has increased and their quality has improved. In wartime, in many provinces, particularly in the Fourth Military Zone, there emerged many outstanding Party members, many Party cells that staunchly and ably led the people in combat and production worthy of being the standard bearers, the steel fortresses, the efficient general staffs of the people's war. They are the nuclei of the local Party committees of our entire Party. In our local Party committees, they have been the main force in the guerrilla fight and made a notable contribution to the great achievements of our anti-imperialist struggle.

THE experiences on the people's war in general, on local military work in particular, in both zones of our country and extremely valuable ones. They timely review will help Viet Nam's military science progress a step further and help the people's war to achieve the resistance against US aggression, for national salvation to its final victory and also to make good preparation for the building of our armed forces and consolidation of our national defence in the future...

(Continued from page 5)

tanks and armoured cars, were wrecked and over 300 choppers downed while one regiment of the puppet 5th Infantry Division had 50 vehicles including 27 tanks and armoured cars wrecked near So Tu Xa, north of Saigon, etc.

Washington wants to shorten it only for a short time — the growing opposition in the USA and the pressure on the puppet regime against Viet Nam. The US psywar machine has raised a ballhoof about so-called strategy. The enemy was most fiercely struck at in his most heavily guarded stronghold, the First Military Zone with Da Nang, Hue, northern Quang Tri as focus, the Third Military Zone with the strategic zone centered on Saigon.

Like the last February 1968, the PLAF raiders point to the lack of realism of the strategy assigned by Washington to its troops, i.e. "to maintain maximum military pressure while cutting down US losses to the minimum." On August 12 alone, thousands of US puppet officers, soldiers, wounded or captured. Besides, the 300 men put out of action in the My Tho province, 1,500 GIs were wiped out in Hon Quan region where nearly 300 vehicles, mostly

constitute an eloquent proof that the puppet army does not sincerely give up its aggression. The South Vietnamese people will by no means be deceived by the American imperialists who are doomed to bitter failure.

Military Operations

THE military news released last week by *Giap Phung Press Agency* continued to give the lie to American press reports about a several-week "lull" since July. In Central Trung Bo and Saigon-Gia Dinh, for instance, the PLAF in July put out of action 7,400 and 7,700 enemy troops; downed, destroyed or damaged 32 and 67 aircraft; and wrecked 170 and 204 military trucks respectively.

Since August 11, a series of blows were dealt to the enemy, all over the territory of South Viet Nam from the 17th parallel to the Mekong delta, chiefly in Hue, Da Nang and Saigon.

August 10 night:

Fighting was raging on the Saigon front:

— a US camp at *Bau Co* (20 km north-northeast of Tay Ninh) overrun; 300 GI casualties, 3 cannons and mortars destroyed. US camp at *La Via* (31 km north-northeast of Tay Ninh) stormed; 2 companies wiped out.

Night of August 11, and August 12:

SAIGON FRONT: Over 90 targets hit, chiefly in the sectors of Hon Quan, Loc Ninh, Phu Long and Tay Ninh.

Hon Quan sector (65 km north of Saigon): annihilation of 1 armoured company and 3 motorized

columns near *Nga To An Ca* (50 vehicles, including 27 armoured cars, of puppet *Armoured Regiment 15*, wrecked, near the "technical centre" (30 tanks and armoured cars destroyed), near *An Lao* (20 vehicles, 90 mm cannons, 11 machine guns destroyed; 18 choppers downed; a puppet *Ranger platoon* wiped out; many firearms seized); southwest of *Hon Quan* (48 tanks and armoured cars wrecked, 150 GI casualties), north of *Chon Thanh* (71 vehicles including 52 armoured cars, destroyed; 350 GIs put out of action; 11 choppers downed).

Loc Ninh sector (22 km north of Hon Quan): heavy losses for US *Armoured Regiment 11*: a camp overrun in 10 minutes, 200 vehicles destroyed, 150 GIs killed or wounded and 2 motorized columns intercepted, 27 vehicles destroyed and 250 GI casualties at village *No. 10*, and 18 vehicles destroyed and 90 GIs put out of action at Village *No. 3*; US "special forces" camp stormed: 100 enemy casualties.

Phu Long sector, north-northeast of Saigon, two subsector CPs, many US "special forces" camps and military posts assaulted, a company and 4 platoons wiped out, 200 enemy soldiers put out of action.

— Other sectors on Saigon front: Second column against *La Via* and bombardment

of "special forces" camp at *Ca Tam*, 2 enemy companies decimated. Pounding of the CP of *Hoa Nghia* military sector, 35 km west, northwest of Saigon, and US bases at *Don Tieng* (64 km northwest of Saigon), *Lai Khe* (52 km north of Saigon) and *Phu Lai* (22 km north of Saigon), *Bien Hoa* airbase and a post near *Trang Bon* (a puppet company put out of action).

DA NANG AND CENTRAL TRUNG BO: PLAF operations against 125 enemy bases and positions including those at *Da Nang* and 8 provincial capitals (*Hoi An, Tam Ky, Quang Ngai, Qui Nhon, Kon Tum, Ha Son, Nha Trang*, and *Bat Me Thuot*), naval bases at *Son Tra* (*Da Nang*) and *Cam Ranh*, many airfields, such as *Nase Nam, Chu Lai, Pleiku*, armoured compounds at *Tuan Duong*, near *Da Nang* (50 GIs, 2 armoured companies of *armored Division*, and 26 vehicles wiped out). Heavy enemy losses at the CP of *Regiment 5*, US *Marine Division 1* at *An Hoa*, many fortified positions stormed.

South of *Qui Nhon*, a big fuel depot hit; 3 million litres of petrol set alight.

On Road No. 19 linking *Pleiku* to the sea, 2 US escorted convoy intercepted

(Continued page 7)



A PLAF signal group

Significance of Widespread PLAF Attacks since August 12

- Complete Initiative in the Patriots' Hands.
- PLAF's Inexhaustible Strength.
- US "Maximum Military Pressure with Minimum Losses" Strategy, an Unrealistic Doctrine.
- Washington's "Lull" Bluff Called.

WHILE Washington was deceiving itself and making believe that the Vietnamese people's patriotic resistance was dying out, furious PLAF onslaughts burst out like a thunderclap throughout South Viet Nam on the night of August 11. A first partial bilan of these synchronized offensives on a vast battlefield one thousand kilometres long and hundreds of kilometres deep shows that enemy losses were heavy since the start:

— In northernmost South Viet Nam, in *Quang Tri* and *Thua Thien* provinces (where lies Hue, ex-capital of the last dynasty of Vietnamese emperors) the patriots struck at score of enemy bases and positions and several scores "pacification" groups. These attacks took place in mountainous country or in Hue, exacting 500 enemy casualties. The US *Third Marine Division* and *101st Air Division* hit the puppet *54th Infantry Regiment* suffered heavy casualties.

In the provinces between *Da Nang* and *Buon Me Thuot*,

Phan Thiet, the PLAF assaulted 125 targets both on the Western High Plateaux and on the narrow coastal fringe 900 kilometres long. The enemy came under fire at *Da Nang* and at least at eight other provincial capitals (including *Quang Ngai, Qui Nhon, Nha Trang* and *Bien Me Thuot*), as well as in other important bases like *Chu Lai, Cam Ranh*, and on strategic roads where 72 vehicles were destroyed near *Lang Yang*.

— On the Saigon front powerful onslaughts were made against thirty or 40 US puppet positions, especially in the northwest, north and northeast of Saigon, in the provinces of *Tay Ninh, Binh Long* (*Hon Quan* and *Loc Ninh*). The US "First Cavalry" and *Eleventh Armoured Regiment*, and the puppet *Eighth Division* took a particularly severe punishment.

— In the Mekong delta at last, 40 enemy positions were hit in *My Tho* province, 50 kilometres southwest of Saigon: 800 US puppet casualties were reported in the

first hours of August 12 there. There, night after, near *Tra Vinh* provincial town, patriotic officers in the puppet army helped by PLAF men overran a US artillery position and turned its guns on the enemy's surrounding posts.

THIS new wave of PLAF offensives and the extension of the theatre of operations bear proof that the South Vietnamese patriots hold the initiative firm in their hands, maintain their position of strength and keep up their successful impetus. They also give evidence that the PLAF are far from being out of breath and are still capable of attacking relentlessly their adversary no matter what resistance the latter may offer. All this is due to the fact that all the three categories of PLAF troops —

(Continued page 7)



PLAF offensives on the night of August 11 and following days

Black points show main enemy bases or positions hit.